



MINUTES



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION NOVEMBER 18, 2009

**Call to Order/
Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by
Chairman McGovern, who led Commissioners and the
audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Rivera

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Herbel, Kirkorn, McGovern, O'Connell,
Siersema and Spencer were in attendance.

Others Present: Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works
Tony Olmos, City Engineer
Bob Stachelski, Transportation Manager
Linda Daily, Project Manager
Joyce Greene, Administrative Assistant

PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Siersema, seconded by Commissioner Herbel to approve the
minutes of October 21, 2009.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Rivera)
ABSTENTIONS: 1 (McGovern)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

- E-1. Travis Hopkins noted that in past years, the Public Works Commission had held the December meeting earlier in the day and followed with an appreciation luncheon. He then deferred to the Commission as to their pleasure. Discussion ensued.

The Public Works Commission agreed it would hold the December 16, 2009 meeting at 11:00 am followed by a luncheon with Commissioners paying their own expenses.

Mr. Hopkins informed the Commissioners the PCH Transit Center will be presented to the Public Works Commission at the December meeting to avoid losing grant funds.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- F-1. Active Capital Projects Report – Tony Olmos presented the updates this month on Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) that had significant changes during the past month. Mr. Olmos then asked the Commission for any questions.

Commissioner Kirkorn inquired about the Beach Boulevard Underground Utility District, the future shopping center expansion at Beach and Atlanta, if the plan allowed for street lights and was stub ups installed during the current undergrounding project. Bob Stachelski responded stub ups were not installed as a layout of any future expansion was not available. Driveway locations and other issues would need to be available to install stub ups during the current undergrounding project. Street lights will be included as a requirement on any expansion.

Commissioner Siersema inquired if the opening of Newland Street to traffic by Thanksgiving will be met as scheduled. Tony Olmos responded staff has been working closely with the contractor to meet the deadline of having one lane of traffic open in each direction by Thursday. Curb, gutter and sidewalks still remains to be installed. The poles will remain in place with sidewalk available on the east side of Newland. An issue with Verizon has yet to be resolved. The entire project is scheduled for completion by the end of December.

Commissioner Herbel inquired what is being added to the Federal Stimulus Arterial Rehab project. Tony Olmos and Bob Stachelski explained the original street project bids came in under the engineer's estimated costs as bids are currently coming in very favorable to the city on projects. Approximately \$400,000 in funding remains available with Slater Avenue being considered for rehabilitation. The funding is handled and distributed through OCTA.

Chair McGovern asked for an update on the City Hall retrofit. Tony Olmos responded the project is close to completion. An item will be taken to the Beautification, Landscape and Tree Committee on November 23, 2009, requesting to remove and replace some of the trees at City Hall. It is anticipated the project will be completed in the next few weeks.

Chair McGovern inquired of the status of the Warner Avenue Gravity Sewer Main legal issues. Tony Olmos responded the City Attorney's Office is still gathering information and will then be taking depositions before the case goes to arbitration.

Bob Stachelski informed the Commission a pedestrian bridge is being installed over the Warner Channel by the Bolsa Chica Wetlands Center. As a crane will be used there may be some lane closure involved and wanted to advise the Commission of the project and that it is not a part of the Warner Avenue Gravity Sewer Main project.

Commissioner Herbel expressed concern with the Blufftop Restroom project and asked if there could be an expansion to include an outside water supply. He has concerns of excessive sand and water going into the vault with users rinsing off their feet and beach equipment in the restroom without an outside water supply available. Tony Olmos responded the project is a Community Services project and Commissioner Herbel's suggestion will be forwarded to Community Services for future projects.

- F-2. Upcoming City Council Study Sessions – Travis Hopkins reviewed the list of upcoming study sessions. A special Study Session will be held January 29, 2010, the Strategic Planning Retreat.
- F-3. Transfer of Ownership of City Owned Block Walls – Travis Hopkins gave the update. A PowerPoint presentation was made at the Monday, November 16, 2009 Study Session and copies were provided to the Commissioners.

The City Council directed Public Works to select a section of city-owned block wall for a pilot project. The standards have yet to be developed. Several of the Commissioners expressed their opinions and concerns of passing the costs on to the homeowner. Discussion ensued. The Public Works Commission expressed its concern of transferring ownership and the financial liabilities of such action to the homeowners.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- G-1. Memo to the Charter Review Commission on Suggested Revision to Charter Section 617 – Travis Hopkins asked the Commission if there were any other changes/revisions to the memo before it was prepared in its final form. Commissioner Herbel stated the information he presented at the last meeting was to be a replacement of a bullet point and not an incorporation. He felt a shorter less technical version was adequate. Chair McGovern stated he had submitted a change that was included but would like to add some clarification language. Discussion ensued on the changes and if the memo needed to return to the Public Works Commission again before being sent to the Charter Review Commission.

The approval of the memo was deferred to the December meeting. The draft version will be reviewed by Chair McGovern and Commissioner Siersema in an effort to have the memo ready for voting as a final document at the December meeting and can then be forwarded to the Charter Review Commission in time for its February meeting.

Commissioner Spencer left at 6:00 p.m.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS

Discussion on the pilot project of transferring ownership to city-owned block walls to property owners. A sub-committee was formed to work with staff to develop language for a charter amendment. The members of the sub-committee will be Chair McGovern, Commissioner Siersema and Commissioner O'Connell.

ADJOURNMENT

The Public Works Commission adjourned to the meeting date of Wednesday, December 16, 2009, 11:00 a.m., City Council Chambers. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

John McGovern
Chair



Joyce A. Greene
Administrative Assistant